

Her spell about the land throws wide. And eyes are bright and cheeks aglow Where stirs the pulse of Christmastide

O gracious branch with berries pearled What gloried green surpasses this. Whose magic sways the whole wide world. The rhythmic sweetness of a kiss?

Yet as the winter, weeping, dies The charm still masters Cupid, so Whene'er he looks in Psyche's eyes He sees the mirrored mistletoe.

"Now," I said, as we came out of

"Why, of course," said father hur-

do you want to go? I'll tell the cab-

"I haven't decided what to get," I

He shook his head. "I'm afraid I

can't, Billie," he told me quietly. "Get

said slowly. "What do you think?

"What do you want? Where

the department store, "I want to buy

wmie ne selected mine.

A CHRISTMAS

was Rose Marie who, marking the day of my last visit on the | Can't you suggest something, father?" calendar, made the discovery that I was to belong to father on Christmas day.

This may sound a bit confusing, for most little girls belong equally to their parents, but 1, Willette Warrington, don't. Ever since I can remember mother has lived in our nice apartment in Central Park West, and father has lived down in the Fifties, just off the avenue. And I belong to mother year in and year out, excepting three days in each month, and for these three days I belong to father.

When Rose Marle made the discovery that my next visit to Fifty-something street would fall upon the 25th of December she was quite ready to cry her little black eyes out.

Father sent the brougham on the morning of the 24th.

"Billie, Billie, dear!" cried mother, clasping me tightly in her arms when she caught sight of the carriage which was to take me away.

"Don't you want me to go, mother?"
I asked a little unsteadily
"Want you to go" she cried. Then she besitated and added, very calm and self possessed: "Of course I always want you with me, Billie, dear. but then so does your father want you. and for the next three days you be long to bim. So I want you to go." "But now-and tomorrow Christmas

day! Oh, mother, won't I see you tomorrow-won't I see you on Christmas day?" I cried, clinging fast to her pretty gown. "I'm afraid not, sweetheart," she

said gently.

"But I want you -I want you, mother, on Christmas day of all days in the year," I said.

"But don't you want your father, too, Billie, dear?" she asked "Oh, 1 know you do-you must! So run along, dear little girl, run-quickly!" She let me go and pushed me gently from her, and I knew by the smile in her big brown eyes that the tears were very near.

Father was waiting for me on the steps of the Cordova, and when he any the brougham halt under the marquise and just one little girl step | ed my head I looked straight into mothout his face went all a grin, and he picked me up and klased me.

"Well, well, well! Where's Rose Marie?" he asked, and then I told him she had stopped at home.

I wish you could see father's rooms in the Cordova. They are ever so nice, with dark walls and gay rugs and big, substantial looking furniture. There's an open fireplace and a huge old settle | looked into mother's levely eyes, with no end of red cushons in his den. and it is here we sit of an evening. side by side, and talk until bedtime. After we had gone up in the elevator to father's apartment he turned to me

and asked me about the day's pro-"I'd like to go down to the shops aft

er luncheon," I told him promptly. "Good! Jolly! And suppose we go

down to one of the more quiet of the big hotels and funch there," he said. He always does think of the very

picest things! A big botel downtown! After luncheon we entered our hansom again and were driven away to one of the big shops, where, as father put it, one can buy everything from a collar button to a steam launch. Rose Marie says men do not like shopping, but, then, Rose Marle doesn't know everything in the world, and father and I had a beautiful time. We bought all sorts of gifts for just every- out. The policeman, who of course body, and father didn't look while I knew nothing of our affairs, said: selected his present, and I didn't look | "Step across into the hausom next to

you, ma'am, its wheels are safe, and I'm thinking the line will be moving

orth first." Poor mother flushed cruelly and said not a word, but just sat there looking with pleading eyes at father. But father didn't move, and neither did he speak, so I took the situation in my two small hands and said:

"Father, won't you help mother into our cab?

Directly I spoke to father he was all attention and politeness. He stood up and held out his hand to mother and carefully helped her across into our hansom. I believe mother would never have come only she knew that a great many persons had heard me and were watching us, and so she yielded graceruny, as mother alone can.

When she was in our cab and sitting down with me squeezed in between father and herself, she raised her eyes and said quietly: "Thank you, Will."

A moment later the line started, slowly moving northward, and our bansom went with the others, father and mother and I were sitting side by side. It seemed so good just to think of it, although I knew it all came of an accident alone.

get out and you and Bille can have the cab to yourselves." "There is no need for you to get out, Will," mother told him quickly "It is who am the intruder. Have him stop. please, and I will find another han-

"I wouldn't have you do that for the world," he returned "I shall leave you it the next corner; that is settled." Mother put out her hand and let est lightly on father's arm

"Will," she cried "please don't make

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"Thanks, I will" eried father, an

re all went up in the elevator together When we were safety in mother retty sitting rooms and I had securely ocked the door, i slipped away and eff them together Somehow it seemed out me just then, and, besides, I think had belied a lot as it was for a mere ittle gira don't you?

An mon inter it seemed hours and ours later, although it really wasn't. course i went back and found nother in father's arms

"Oh won't we have a bully Christ mas?" I cried joyfully "Father and nother and t what a lovely, lovely time we'll have together!" "You can wager anything you

that we will," mughed father. "Why

it will be a regular Christmas a mode eh. Nell?" And then he kissed mother, mother hid her happy face on his broad shoulder, and I was oh, so happy! Merry Christmas, Indeed! W. Carey

The Busy Woman's Day

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It begins earl, and ends late, and is full of work. She often has kidney trouble without knowing it After we had gone two blocks uptown, father spoke-very quietly and
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"OH, MOTHER," I SHOUTED. whatever you think your mother will like I know she will appreciate it all the more if you select it yourself."

He put me in the hansom and, jumpng in himself, told the man to drive slowly up the avenue. This would give me time to decide upon the present and where it should be purchased. I was wavering between a set of silver for her Antoinette desk and a pair of green majolica jars for her favorite dwarf pines when our hansom was eaught in a block.

Directly abreast of our bansom was another one, ours going north, our neighbor's coming south, and as I turn er's eyes. She was the sole occupant of the south coming cab

"Mother!" I shouted "Oh, mother, mother!" "Rilfief" she cried. We had both seen each other together, just as we always

see everything together. "What is the trouble?" began father when he, too, turned his head and

"How-de-do, Will?" she said softly. I saw father clinch his bands tightly, then, "How-de-do, Nell?" he returned "Awful block, Isn't it?"

"Ob, very bad!" said mother, but she was looking at me sitting so proudly at father's side, and presently I caught the suspicion of a tear in her eyes. Directly a big lump came in my throat. I saw how it was. Mother was thinking of Christmas and of her little girl, and I was sorry, sorry for her and for father too. The surface cars banged their bells, the policemen shouted and the cabbles swore. And all the while our hansom was jammed tightly next to mother's, and we sat staring straight at each other and saying not a word. Just then a policeman came up to mother's bansom and shouted to the cabby. It seemed that the left wheel of mother's hansom was locked in the right wheel of another carriage in such

a way as to render it unsafe to pull

was forced in your cab, by accident it is true, but nevertheless, I did allow you to help me enter it. But that was because-people were-watching usand I thought-it best. Now that we are out of the tangle, I must thank you and ask you to set me down-at once! Else I shall never forgive you."

And they continued to talk, and the bansom continued on its way, and nobody but myself noticed that we had blocks of the apartment building in Central Park West, where mother and live. So, quite unobserved, I spoke up the

tube to the cabby, and said: "The Strathmore, and quick, please!" We turned down a cross street into another, and before one could say "Jack Robinson" we had stopped at the door of the Strathmore.

"Oh!" cried mother. "What is this?" frowned father. But he leaped out on the snow covered pavement and gave mother his band. A moment later we all hurried up the steps and-stopped in the lobby! "Thank you," said mother. "You are very kind."

cup of tea, perhaps?" asked mother

I don't know what father would

MESSIAH'S KINGDOM.

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Nearing. The period in which sin is permitted has been a dark night to humanity, never to be forgotten; but the glorious day of righteousness and divine favor is soon to be ushered in by Messiah. He, as the SUN OF RIGHTgot well uptown and were within two EOUSNESS, shall arise and shine fully and clearly into and upon all, bringing healing and blessing, which will more than counterbalance the dreadful night of weeping, sighing, pain, sickness and isfy. Only 50c at Huntley Bros. death, in which the groaning creation has been so long. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the MORNING."

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